

SAC, Los Angeles

November 13, 1959

Director, FBI

"UNDERWORLD, USA"
~~COLUMBIA PICTURES~~
RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

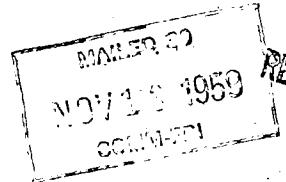
Ber

The November 6, 1959, issue of "The Hollywood Reporter" indicates a motion picture entitled "Underworld, USA" will be produced and directed by Samuel Fuller for Columbia Pictures beginning on November 30, 1959. Through your established sources, you should discreetly determine whether or not this motion picture will contain any references to this Bureau. If so, an attempt should be made to determine the nature of the references and if possible, a copy of the script should be obtained and forwarded to the Bureau for review.

Cal 12

1 - Mr. DeLoach

MCT-47



OK ✓
62-105817
NOV 16 1959
OK-133
✓
Jew

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
DeLoach _____
McGuire _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Gandy _____

ENCLOSURE
GEM:mob
(6)

62 NOV 19 1959

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

LA 94-652

"he said, is to show how they live and not 'to resolve anything.' He hopes he'll be able to awaken the public as to what is going on in the rackets."

On 11/23/59.

[redacted] SA [redacted] confidentially advised [redacted] that a script of the above-captioned film had been submitted [redacted] by Columbia Pictures, Inc., in early November, 1959. Following a review, Columbia Pictures was advised by letter dated 11/10/59, that the script was unacceptable to the motion picture production code office as its contents clearly violate the code in many ways.

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[redacted] explained that the script, which is a gangster story, presents organized crime in a grand scale. Local law enforcement agencies are portrayed as being unable to cope with gangster power. About 10% of the policemen and politicians are described as being paid off by the criminal syndicate. The syndicate's activities in prostitution and dope traffic are portrayed with women being identified as prostitutes in several brothel scenes. Venereal disease among the underworld characters is also commented upon in some detail. Eighteen gangster killings take place, most of which are shown in bloody scenes, thereby making the story a "blood bath" of violence.

b6
b7C
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These objections have all been conveyed to Columbia Pictures, Inc. [redacted]

b6
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[redacted] mentioned that no FBI agents are portrayed in the story, and he does not recall any reference to this agency in any regard.

[redacted] confidential basis could be made by an agent of this office; however, as there are no references to the Bureau in the present story, no review will be made at this time, UACB.

b6
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Contact will be maintained with [redacted]

[redacted] in connection with this script. Bureau will be advised of developments.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: November 25, 1959

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (94-652)

SUBJECT: "UNDERWORLD, USA"
COLUMBIA PICTURES
RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

ReBulet to Los Angeles, 11/13/59.

The following news item concerning the above-captioned film appeared in the 10/28/59, issue of "Daily Variety", Hollywood motion picture trade publication:

"FULLER FRANK ABOUT
'UNDERWORLD' SEX

"At a time when the film industry is being severely criticized in many quarters for employing sex and violence in its product, writer-director-producer SAMUEL FULLER frankly states that his next production, 'Underworld, U.S.A.' will contain 'action, sex and violence.'

"FULLER indicated that he deplored the use of these elements for their own sake, but he contends that 'if you have a story about gangs, you must show how they live and operate and how they use violence to terrify people.' FULLER contends that his film, which will be released by Columbia as part of his four-picture deal with the company, will be a unique gangster film in that it has nothing to do with the gangsterism of the '20's. Moreover, he emphasized, there will not be a single policeman, FBI man or undercover agent in the picture. Nor will there be any scenes in a nightclub or bar.

"FULLER's story, the title of which was obtained from a Saturday Evening Post series by a Boston newspaperman, concerns the operation of mobster syndicates in the America of today. According to FULLER, it discusses the big business operation of the syndicates in narcotics, labor, prostitution, sports, lotteries, etc. His aim,

2 - Bureau

1 - Los Angeles (94-652)

JMC:HMS

(3)

REC-4b

62-103817-D

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2 Nov 30 1959

CRIME REC/SY

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 DeLoach _____
 McGuire _____
 Mohr _____
 Parsons _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Trotter _____
 W.C. Sullivan _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Gandy _____

PICTURES IN PREPARATION

(Starting dates listed are tentative.)

Company	Title	Producer	Director	Date
Simar-AIP Columbia	"The Purple Gang" "Let No Man Write My Epitaph"	W. Martin B. Kaplan	William Martin Philip Leacock	Nov. 10 Nov. 16
20th-Fox Mirisch-UA	"The Story of Ruth"	S. Engel	Henry Koster	Nov. 16
20th-Fox	"The Apartment"	B. Wilder	Silv. Wilder	Nov. 16
20th-Fox	"The Billionaire"	J. Wald	George Cukor	Nov. 18
20th-Fox	"From the Terrace"	M. Robson	Mark Robson	Nov. 23
20th-Fox	"Song and Lovers"	J. Wald	Jack Cardiff	Nov. 23
U-I	"Portrait in Black"	R. Hunter	Michael Cordon	Nov. 25
Allied Artists	"Teacher Was a Sexpot"	A. Zugsmith	A. Zugsmith	Nov. 27
Columbia	"Brink's Robbery"	B. Foy	Samuel Fuller	Nov. 30
Columbia	"Underworld, USA"	S. Fuller	Samuel Fuller	Nov. 30
Columbia	"Caves of Night"	C. Wilde	_____	Nov. 30
MCM	"Cimarron"	E. Grainger	Anthony Mann	Nov. 30
AIP	"Aladdin and the Giant"	R. Corman	Roger Corman	Dec. 2
Cordon Prod.	"The Boy and the Pirates"	B. I. Gordon	B. Gordon	Dec. 2
20th-Fox	"The Hell Raisers"	Jerry Wald	Don Siegel	Dec. 7
20th-Fox	"Dud Avocado"	W. Wanger	_____	Dec. 7
MGM	"Go Naked in the World"	A. Rosenberg	R. MacDougall	Dec. 14

The Washington Post and _____
 Times Herald _____
 The Washington Daily News _____
 The Evening Star _____
 New York Herald Tribune _____
 New York Journal-American _____
 New York Mirror _____
 New York Daily News _____
 New York Post _____
 The New York Times _____
 The Worker _____
 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 Date _____

The Hollywood Reporter
 Hollywood, California
 November 6, 1959

file
 2/26

675AC 11-B-37
 6/11

62-105817-1
 ENCLOSURE